

Winterport Area Business Association Meeting  
Winterport House of Pizza, Main Street, Winterport, Maine  
Wednesday, May 11, 2011

Meeting began at 7:00 a.m. and the Mission Statement was read.

Introductions of those members in attendance were conducted:

Bernie Littlefield, BEL Portraits - President  
Nancy Tang – Glass Orchids  
Marcel St. Denis – Handyman Services  
Ann Ronco, Old Winterport Commercial House – Secretary  
Tammy Higgins – Treasurer  
Mike Anderson – Winterport Winery/Pairings/Penobscot Bay Brewery  
Sandra Cook Leibey – Thistle Brae Sticky Buns  
Deb Newman – Maine Bytes – Vice President  
Rob Newman – Maine Bytes  
Ray Ronco – Old Winterport Commercial House  
Joe Brooks – Town Council  
Stephanie Francis – My Thrill Studio  
Val Haskins - Shaklee  
Jeannie Wilson – Winterport House of Pizza

The meeting minutes of Wednesday, April 13, 2011 was voted on and approved unanimously.

Tammy reported that there is \$2,316.16 in the association's bank account

Bernie reminded everyone that Nominations for the 2011-2012 Executive Committee are now being accepted. Deadline for nominations is June 1 but nominations will also be taken from the floor at the next meeting of June 8. Positions are for one year.

Dues for the 2011-2012 year will be collected in June and are still only \$25.00. An email reminder will be sent out shortly. It was also asked in addition to sending out an email if the association could use "snail mail" to notify members to send in their dues.

Bob Reynolds of the Winterport Dragway has gotten permission from the Town Council and has once again agreed to do a Classic Car Show with WABA. Deb is coordinating this with Bob and wants to see an all day event with 3 bands and more vendors. Also wants to get the motorcycle community involved. Bob has told Deb he wants to do a larger dragway segment. We will need corporate sponsors for raffles and we will be handing out trophies as we did last year. When choosing a date, it was mentioned that the BCBV (Bangor Convention and Visitors Bureau) will be having a car show as well sometime in September so we should avoid having it at the same time. Deb had suggested we do this in July due to the Dragway's schedule as well as having something to promote 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. After a lengthy discussion, it was voted to ask Bob if this can be done Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> with a rain date of Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>.

Deb reminded us that this event is prime time for our members to promote themselves by bringing brochures there, and/or possibly setting up as vendors, because this is what WABA is all about – promoting our members. We can even talk about donating some of the proceeds to an organization in order to get people to come.

Nancy stated that some of the businesses in Hampden have reason to believe that the Hampden Business Association is no longer active and asked if Hampden businesses could join WABA. She specifically noted that one business had sent in their dues only to have it sent back to them and phone calls were not being returned by the board. Deb said she would contact one of the board members who she knows to see what is going on. But if the businesses want to join WABA, they are welcome to. Ann noted there would need to be a change in the bylaws in order to give those of Hampden a vote within the organization.

Bernie reminded us that sponsorship is still needed for events for the kid's area at the Winterport Music Festival. Deb said she will talk to Sonny about doing a kid's golf area and also to the Masons about doing a child registration program. It was stated we should also ask the Winterport Women's Club if they would like to get involved. It was further suggested that flyers be handed out to the kids at the end of the school year to promote it. Someone also suggested getting the school kids involved by having them help in making the games.

Ann reminded members of the Farmers/Green Market the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays, June - September. The group was shown the signage that was ordered. Five of these signs will be put up around the area to attract the public.

Joe told the group that the Calvary Baptist Church which burnt last week is planning on rebuilding. In the meantime, the food pantry will be located at the Victorian Grant Civic Center. Also he stated that the Winterport Docks has finally been sold to a group from Blue Hill.

Since the docks have been sold, the Winterport Development Committee is working on getting a right-of-way to build 3 miles of walking trails. This will strictly be a walking/bike trail and will not allow atv's or snowmobiles. Other ideas for the land are a canoe/kayak launch and to connect this trail with the trails that go to the Smith and Wagner schools. Possibly even connect to the local swimming hole.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10am.

Next Meeting June 8<sup>th</sup> at The Winterport House of Pizza, 7:00am